



CAPITOL SAFETY PROJECT ROLLS AHEAD THANKS TO COLORADO HISTORICAL SOCIETY

BY TROY A. EID
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, DPA

Budget challenges in Colorado and throughout the nation have created an unexpected but refreshing opportunity to reexamine how state government does business. Our challenge as leaders is to seize this opportunity to work together in new and sometimes unorthodox ways to meet the needs of Colorado's citizens.

The recent resuscitation by the Colorado Historical Society of the State Capitol Life-Safety Project is a case in point. The Colorado State Capitol is one of the most (if not *the* most) significant historical building in the State. Yet since its completion in 1903, the fire danger has been so serious that if the building were not currently exempted from Denver city fire codes, its upper floors could only be occupied by a grand total of nine people at any given time. The Life-Safety Project will bring fire sprinklers, pressurized smoke-proof staircases and other badly needed safety improvements to one of Colorado's busiest buildings and most popular tourist attractions.

When budget reductions led to a freeze in state building construction projects, the State Capitol Life-Safety Project was put on hold indefinitely. But instead of giving up, two determined state leaders – State Architect Larry Friedberg and Capitol Complex Manager Ric Conard, both employees of the Department of Personnel & Administration (DPA) – approached the Colorado Historical Society (CHS) for help.



*Larry Friedberg
State Architect*

With support from the Colorado Commission on Higher Education and the encouragement of CHS President Georgianna Contiguglia, DPA submitted an application to the Colorado Historical Fund for a \$2.3 million grant to support the Life-Safety Project. This fund receives 28 percent of the tax revenues generated from Colorado's limited-stakes gaming proceeds, which are then



dedicated to preserving state historical sites. CHS approved the grant last month.

The history of the State Capitol is inseparable from the story of Colorado. The building itself was designed in 1885 following a competition won by architect Elijah E. Myers of Detroit, Michigan. Myers' design was defined as "the Corinthian order of classic architecture." Construction began in 1886 but was not sufficiently complete to allow occupancy until 1895. In 1897, additional funds were appropriated and Denver architect Frank E. Edbrooke was hired to complete the project. In 1903 the building was finally completed when the dome was finished and gilded with gold.

According to State Architect Friedberg, the Capitol's contents and building materials are virtually
Please see CAPITOL, p. 2

ALSO IN THIS ISSUE:

- ▶ **EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH, p. 4**
- ▶ **EMPLOYEE COUNCIL UPDATE, p. 5**
- ▶ **ALL THINGS MUST PASS, p. 6**

CAPITOL, from p. 1

irreplaceable and an accurate value is impossible to assess. The artwork, from the paintings and sculptures to the murals and stained glass work, could never be duplicated. The chief wainscot material is Beulah marble (often referred to as rose onyx) and is no longer available. The craftsmanship could likely be replicated but only at a cost that would stagger the imagination when translated to today's construction dollars.

The ultimate goal of the State Capitol Life-Safety Project is to protect, preserve and maintain the building and its contents while bringing it up to current safety standards. The immediate goal is to protect the buildings inhabitants: The people who work and visit the building on a day-to-day basis. These upgrades are the first step to assuring that the building is protected for future restoration and improvement projects and that its users and visitors are safe.

The Life-Safety Project began in 1990 but suffered repeated delays over the years. Last June, the Legislature appropriated \$12,727,574 for the project. Before these funds were frozen later in the year, the project achieved some important successes. A sprinkler system has now been installed in the Capitol dome and the sub-basement; an upsized fire pump and piping have been installed and are now operational; and fire-rated room divisions with firewalls and fire doors have been installed in the sub-basement. A survey has also been completed to determine how best to complete the work with minimal disruption to the building's historic character, particularly given that the Capitol will be occupied during the six-year duration of the project.

The CHS grant means that work on the Life-Safety Project will resume this month and will continue through this August – with the possibility that CHS may consider funding later stages of the project through its annual grant-application process. The phase 1 work will include the installation of fire sprinklers and alarms in the attic and the purchase of marble panels for extending the building's four stairwells (which will be completed in future phases). These stairways currently extend from the third floor to the second floor, where they dead-end, and pose the most serious threat to escaping the building during a fire.

Additional project phases will include installing fire sprinklers, smoke detectors, a public address system, exit signage and emergency power throughout the entire State Capitol building. The entire project will take six years contingent on continued funding.

Future generations of Coloradans can thank Larry Friedberg, Ric Conard, CCHE and the Colorado Historical Society for helping make the Colorado State Capitol a safer place to work and visit. These talented

state employees remind us that even in challenging times, real leaders know how to turn lemons into lemonade.

As Executive Director of the Colorado Department of Personnel & Administration, Troy A. Eid is the chief administrative officer for Colorado's \$13.8 billion state government.



Ric Conard in the State Capitol sub-basement.



THE GOVERNOR'S STAR AWARDS

Nominations are now being accepted for the Governor's State Top Achievement Recognition (STAR) Awards. All State employees are eligible. Nominations forms can be found at www.state.co.us/dpa/, scroll down to the bottom of the page and click on "The Governor's 2003 STAR Awards."

The award ceremony will be held Thursday, May 8th at the Adams Mark Hotel in downtown Denver.

February Employee of the Month Todd Olson

Todd Olson consistently demonstrates effective leadership and management abilities. Through his day-to-day management and strong accounting knowledge, he has made improvements to the Department's financial management and ensures that the accounting team operates smoothly, allowing Department management to focus attention upon other areas.

He is particularly deserving of the employee of the month award at this time because he recently took responsibility for overseeing the build-out and construction within the Executive Office. He managed the various aspects associated with this project in a manner that minimized the disruption to staff and the cost to the Department. This, at times, resulted in Todd staying late and performing some of the work himself. In addition, Todd was cognizant of the potential morale impact of changing (and in some cases reducing) an individual's workspaces and was able to minimize any issues. Todd should be recognized for his work on this project as it resulted in more efficient use of the space in the Executive Office, was accomplished in a fiscally responsible manner, and did not adversely impact Todd's day-to-day work.



Todd was dreading yet another meeting regarding the budget, but instead was awarded with his Employee of the Month Certificate.

This month's other nominees included: Andrea Woods of the SPB for her exemplary performance of her day-to-day duties; the Frontline Collections Team of DFP (Abi Gaskins (Manager), Robert Bevill, Mickie Lawrence, Dorothea Lindsey, Steve Swearengin, Mike Taylor, and Sam Ulitzky) for their exceptional performance in December 2002; Dana Campbell of DoIT for her for the enthusiasm and dedication she exhibits in her job; Travis Engelhardt of DHR for the outstanding efforts he has put into the Work-Life program; Jose Esquibel of DCS for his initiative in learning more about building maintenance; Judge Judith F. Schulman of DOAH for consistently producing high quality judicial work.

CIO DEPARTS DPA FOR GOVERNOR'S OFFICE

Governor Owens appointed our own Leroy Williams, formerly DPA's Chief Information Officer (CIO), to be the new CIO for Colorado state government. It is a real tribute to Leroy and all his colleagues at DPA, especially on the TMU team, that Colorado's new CIO hails from our Department. Leroy has provided outstanding service to DPA and to Colorado, no doubt he will have continued success in his new position.

I thank Leroy for his outstanding service to DPA and to Colorado and wish him continued success in his new role," Said Troy Eid. "It has been a pleasure and privilege serving together and we look forward to continuing to work with him in the days and months ahead."

The Governor's Office of Innovation and Technology's mission is to grow Colorado's economy by attracting advanced and emerging technology industries, promoting technology education for our citizens, and

establishing technological solutions enabling efficient delivery of government services that engage citizens and businesses.

With Leroy's departure and after extensive review and feedback from DPA employees and customers, it has been decided to combine the TMU with DoIT. It also makes more budget sense in the current environment to combine these units back into one division under Rick Malinowski.

Leroy's new duties will be much the same as his duties here at DPA. He will be responsible for determining Colorado's information technology needs and making sure those needs are met now and in the future. We all wish him continued success.



*Leroy Williams
Colorado's new
CIO*

LETTERS

Mr. Jim Davis
Capitol Complex (DCS)

Dear Jim:

I wanted to write to thank you for all of your extra efforts lately. I really appreciate all of your help with the Inauguration, the chandeliers and shelves in my office, and the Lt. Governor's move into her new office. I know we have asked a lot of you lately, and I want you to know we appreciate it. You have always been so helpful, accommodating and personable, and I certainly appreciate all you do. My staff thinks you are terrific as well.

Best wishes for a wonderful 2003!

Sincerely,

Bill
(Governor Bill Owens)

Monica Cortez-Sangster
Human Resource Unit (EO)

Hey Monica,

I just wanted to send you a note of praise for Perry Madison. Although my dealings with him have been few and far between, I am consistently impressed by his knowledge and professionalism. He is very responsive, always willing to go above and beyond his duties to provide me with information, and his demeanor is always pleasant. I just thought I'd let you know that your 'customers' notice what a great job you and your staff are doing!

Ronda L. McGovern
Division of Administrative Hearings

Frank Lombardi
Capitol Complex (DCS)

Frank,

This is an email I love sending to you. I need to tell you about how much I and the tenants at the Department of Revenue so appreciate Jim Davis and Joe Jiron. Both these men have gone above and beyond in serving the Department of Revenue tenants. They are always helpful and courteous. They are able to take an impossible situation and make it possible. So we tenants consider them Heroes.

One example is, Fred Fisher's office wanted to have an old desk from the lobby moved to the 4th floor. Both the professional movers and the Life Safety Contractors said, it couldn't be done. However, when Joe and Jim were contacted they came up with the solution and were able to move the unit to the exact location it needed to be. The Executive Director and his staff so appreciated their accomplishment. These are "Can Do" people!

They can also say, no, with grace, so that tenants understand that they really cannot do something or at least not now. The tenants feel they have been heard and served in spite of a "no". I don't know how they do it but they do.

I just wanted you to know how much we (the tenants) applaud Capitol Complex for having such great representatives.

Thanks,
Cindy Wunderlich
Department of Revenue

PERSONNEL CHANGES

New Hires:
Alexander Davis, DCS

Promotions:
Ronda McGovern, DOAH, to GPV
Richard Walker, DOAH, to GPV

Elizabeth Lipscomb, DOAH, to GPVII

Transfers In:
Brenda Berlin, EO
Robert Thompson Jr., DOAH

THE DPA EMPLOYEE COUNCIL

BY MIKE SEXSON
PRESIDENT, DPA EMPLOYEE COUNCIL

The DPA Employee Council is made up of your fellow employees who work year 'round to sponsor the yearly employee appreciation picnics and fall chili cook-offs. We are also a resource for employees to get information and assistance with work-related issues. We are not an advocacy group, but rather a forum to express concerns as well as discuss what is positive about working within DPA.

Last year we held employee picnics at four separate locations, including Pueblo, North Campus, Downtown and Kipling. The Council was instrumental in getting the new flex-time policy in place, getting disposal seat covers for the public restrooms in the State Services Building, helping with the C-SEAP food drive, and hosting four fall chili cook-offs.

Remarkably, the Council, which began the year with less than \$50, accomplished all of this and still ended 2002 with more than \$1,200. This could not have been done

without the hard work of the council members and strong leadership from our council officers. The 2002 officers: Mike Wallace (President), Rene Covard (Vice-President), Lucy Arellano (Treasurer), and Judi Karg (Secretary.)

The council is planning many new and exciting fundraising events in the coming months including: both a new and used book sale, See's Candy Bars and Lollypops sales, Butter Braid Bread Sale, Bowling Family Fun Day, DPA Cookbook, State Gear & Bags, and more. Proceeds from these sales all go toward activities and events for the benefit of DPA employees.

Thank you for supporting our past fund raising efforts and please continue to support our efforts so we will be able to continue to bring the yearly picnic and more to all our fellow employees. We also want to hear any concerns you may have regarding the council or DPA, please contact your representative from the list below.

2003 EMPLOYEE COUNCIL MEMBERS

Administrative Hearings	Rosylyn McMillon (Secretary) Mercy Fisher	303-764-1400 303-764-1400
Central Services (PDEC)	Hallie Lee	719-545-5294
Central Services (Downtown)	Sylvia Santistevan Kelly Tyler	303-866-3970 303-866-2326
Central Services (North Campus)	Rene Ahl Teddy Abad Perez	303-866-3888 303-866-3881
Executive Director's Liaison	Paul Farley	303-866-6212
Executive Office	Laura Blake Julie Postlethwait	303-866-4223 303-866-6095
Finance & Procurement	Mike Wallace Mike Sexson (President)	303-866-6143 303-866-6552
Human Resources	Judi Karg (Vice-President) Vicki Bottenberg	303-866-2391 303-866-4220
Information Technology (TMU)	Cathy Buckles Jill Vaughn (Treasurer)	303-866-6356 303-866-6119
Information Technology (Data Center)	Celestine Bryant	303-239-4359
Information Technology (Telecom)	Balta Moreno Dennis Kalvels	303-866-4919 303-866-3459

ALL THINGS MUST PASS

BY PAUL FARLEY

This month would have marked George Harrison's 60th birthday, and although nobody has asked, I thought I'd tell how I got the famously reclusive guitarist's autograph. When my wife and I got married in 1983, we decided to go to England, and from there to Gibraltar including a day trip to Morocco, under the theory that once we had kids we would never be able to manage such a trip again. And in fact, we've never been back.

Naturally, we went to the Tower of London, St. Paul's Cathedral, and places like that, but we also went to the shrines of Beatle-dom: Abbey Road, Savile Row (where they played their last show on the roof), Royal Albert Hall (minus the 4,000 holes), and Stonehenge (which, as you recall, was the backdrop for a climactic battle scene in the movie *Help!*). While driving back from Stonehenge we stopped in Henley-on-Thames, a small Oxfordshire town roughly 50 miles west of London. There, we visited George's home at Friar Park, an eclectic blend of French renaissance and gothic architecture, replete with turrets, towers, and gargoyles.

The estate had a colorful history, and an equally colorful owner, long before an ex-Beatle arrived on the scene. Sir Frank Crisp, a millionaire solicitor, had purchased the 30-acre property in 1896 from a local clergyman. Crisp wanted the sprawling stone mansion he built to reflect the original residents – humble friars. And they are all over the place, with friars' noses for light switches, sculpted friars holding lamps, a relief of a friar washing dishes over the kitchen sink, brass doorknobs shaped like friars' heads.

On the verandah are the Friars of the Winds: the north friar with puffed-up cheeks, the east friar with thin cheeks, the west friar with watery eyes, and the south friar with a smiling, sunny face. Outside the main entrance a statue of a monk holding a perforated cooking pan is captioned "Two holy friars." You get the idea.

Sir Frank was also something of an authority on gardening, and employed a small army of workers who spent more than 20 years recreating vast medieval gardens featuring streams, lakes, waterfalls, and many rare species of trees and flowers. He also had a network of caves excavated under the mansion, which he then flooded so his guests could enjoy after-dinner cruises through rooms filled with mirrors, skeletons, and garden gnomes (at one time he had the largest gnome collection in the country)(sort of an odd distinction to pursue, when you think of it). In addition, he had all sorts of semi-

philosophical quotes engraved throughout the premises. (An example: "People who live in glass houses should dress in the dark.")

Following Sir Frank's death in 1919, the estate was auctioned off, and by the 1950s it was a Catholic convent and parochial school. In 1969 the school was closed and was about to be demolished and sold to developers. It was at this crucial point that George discovered the place, fell in love with it, and plunked down the \$336,000 asking price. He hired ten gardeners and a full-time botanist to restore the grounds to their previous grandeur. He renovated the mansion and put a state of the art recording studio in the upstairs ballroom.

It was a warm clear day when we arrived at Friar Park. At the front gate there was a cottage and a large sign featuring flags of several countries with a notation in the language represented by each. So there was a British flag, and next to it, "No trespassing." A French flag, followed by "Défense d'entrer." A Spanish flag with "Prohibida la entrada," a German flag with "Eingang verboten," and so forth. At the bottom was an American flag with the translation, "Get your ass outa here." Undeterred and having nothing to lose, I went to the gate and buzzed in: "Yes?" "Hello, we're visiting from

America and were wondering if it would be possible to say hello to Mr. Harrison." "I'm sorry, he is not in at the moment." "Oh, oh well, thank you anyway."

When we got home I sent a copy of George's 1980 autobiography, *I, Me, Mine* (which he had "dedicated to gardeners everywhere"), to Friar Park with a note explaining my great admiration for his work and describing our odyssey: "However, the woman I spoke with on the

intercom said no one was home; and being an American I got my ass outa there." I thought a man who had financed and produced a couple of Monty Python films would appreciate a fan who didn't take fandom too seriously.

About three months later, I received a parcel in the mail from England. The handwriting on the label was George's own, and inside was the book I'd sent him. He had inscribed it, quite simply, "Best wishes, George Harrison." Here was a world famous multi-millionaire who took the time for a small act of kindness, even to the point of addressing the package himself; it remains one of my most treasured possessions. Less than a year before his death in November 2001 he explained, with typical modesty, "I occasionally write a tune, but I'm not really a career person. I'm a gardener, basically." And to that I would add a truly generous man and a class act.

